

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. In the Office Action, mailed March 27, 2008, the Examiner required restriction among eleven (11) groups of claims. By this amendment, claims 1-102 and 144-216 have been canceled without prejudice, no claims have been amended, and new claims 217-224 have been added. Following entry of these amendments, claims 103-143 and 217-224 will be pending in the application.

Restriction Response

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute, with traverse, the claims drawn to Group VII (claims 103-125) as defined by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Applicants traverse the Examiner's assertion that the claims from Group IV (claims 59-73) and Group V (claims 74-88) should be restricted as between them. As the Examiner notes, both of Groups IV and V deal with pilot signals and steering, therefore the distinctness of these Groups, while existent, is minimal. As the Examiner also notes, both Groups IV and V are in class 370 and subclass 310. Therefore, Applicants assert that there is no serious search and/or examination burden on the Examiner to examine both of these Groups at the same time. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement between Group IV and Group V.

Applicants also traverse the Examiner's assertion that the claims from Group VII (claims 103-125) and Group VIII (claims 126-143) should be restricted as between them. Both of Groups VII and VIII deal with channel structure and/or one or more control channels, therefore the distinctness of these Groups, while existent, is minimal. As the Examiner notes, both Groups VII and VIII are in class 370 and subclass 328. Therefore, Applicants assert that there is no serious search and/or examination burden on the Examiner to examine both of these Groups at the same time. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement as between Group VII and Group VIII.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to all Groups of claims not made part of this application.

Specification Amendments

Applicants amend paragraphs [00173], [00177], [00179] and [00180] in the specification to correct certain informalities noticed during preparation of various divisional applications. Specifically, Applicants noticed that several reference numbers used in the drawings could be better indicated in the specification. The proposed amendments cure these informalities. Applicants respectfully request entry of these specification amendments.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Charge Statement: For this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,
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